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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/240,844	02/01/1999	JEFFREY A. SMITH	1960.103	7867

7590

08/14/2002

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EXAMINER

VU, KIEU D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 08/14/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/240,844

Applicant(s)

SMITH ET AL.

Examiner

Kieu D Vu

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 July 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 9-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 9-11, 13, 16, 21-25, 27, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith et al ("Smith", USP 6222537 B1) and Ezekiel et al ("Ezekiel", USP 5625783).

Regarding claims 9 and 21, Smith teaches a system for providing a graphical user interface for a component based application program (see abstract), comprising:

a plurality of user interface components (col 2, lines 36-45);

a document viewer for displaying a document or modifying a document within a component based application program (col 4, lines 13-14);

the document viewer having a user interface requirements specification referencing at least one of said plurality of user interface components (col 4, lines 41-49);

a renderer to render a graphical user interface for the application program according to said document viewer's user interface requirement specification (col 4, lines 46-47).

Smith differs from the claim in that Smith does not teach the adding component to the application program without the need to recompile or reinstall the application.

However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Ezekiel. In the same field of constructing and rendering graphical user interface, Ezekiel teaches the adding on software components to the application program without recompiling or reinstalling the application (abstract; col 3, lines 11-36). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Smith and Ezekiel before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the graphical user interface system taught by Smith to adding on component taught by Ezekiel with the motivation being to enable the system to conveniently incorporate newly added components to existing set of components of the application program.

Regarding claims 10 and 22, Smith teaches a workflow manager for registering user interface components associated with said user interface requirements specification (col 8, lines 23-28).

Regarding claims 11 and 25, Smith teaches at least one of said plurality of user interface components is a button (Fig. 3).

Regarding claims 13 and 27, Smith teaches at least one of said plurality of user interface components is an edit box (Fig. 3).

Regarding claims 16 and 30, Smith teaches that at least one of said plurality of user interface components is implemented using Javascript (col 3, lines 57-59; col 5, lines 62-65).

Regarding claims 23-24, Smith teaches the providing a new or a modified user interface requirements specification (col 9, lines 6-20; col 12, lines 37-39) and registering user interface components associated with the new or modified user interface requirements specification with the workflow manager (inherent).

3. Claims 20 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith, Ezekiel, and Brown ("Brown", USP 6173284).

Regarding claims 20 and 34, Smith does not teach that said renderer is a DHTML browser. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Brown. Brown teaches a renderer (user interface module) comprising a DHTML browser (col 3, lines 11-15). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Smith and Brown before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the graphical user interface system taught by Smith to include the use of DHTML browser taught by Brown with the motivation being to use a variation of languages.

4. Claims 14-15 and 28-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith, Ezekiel, and Sparks et al ("Sparks", USP 6222838 B1).

Regarding claims 14-15 and 28-29, Smith does not teach that at least one of said plurality of user interface components is implemented as an activeX control or Java applet. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Sparks. Sparks teaches user interface component is an ActiveX Control or Java applet (col 2, lines 39-44). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Smith and Sparks before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the graphical user interface system taught by Smith to include the use of ActiveX control or Java applet as user interface component taught by Brown with the motivation being to enable users to use ActiveX Control or Java applet in web page implementation.

5. Claims 17-19 and 31-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith, Ezekiel, and Notani ("Notani", USP 6222533).

Regarding claims 17-19 and 31-33, Smith does not teach that the document viewer is implemented as a COM or DCOM or CORBA object (col 4, lines 40-43; lines 63-64). However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Notani. Notani teaches a computer implemented system enabling a global user interface which comprises the implementation of COM or DCOM or CORBA object (col 4, lines 40-43; line 62-66). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Smith and Notani before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the graphical user interface system taught by Smith to include the implementation of COM or DCOM or CORBA object taught by Notani with the motivation being to enable users to use a variety of interface implementation in the application.

7. Claims 12 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith, Ezekiel, and Berteig ("Berteig", USP 6348936).

Regarding claims 12 and 26, Smith does not teach that the user interface component is a slider. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Berteig. Berteig teaches a method and apparatus for selecting data with the implementation of a graphic object such as a slider (abstract). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Smith and Berteig before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the graphical user interface system taught by Smith to include the implementation of slider as a user interface component taught by Berteig with the motivation being to enable users to use a variety of interface implementation in the application.

8. Applicant's arguments filed 07/26/02 have been fully considered.

In response to Applicant's argument against the applying Smith's teaching for the rejection, it is noted that Smith describes a user interface builder that provides support for creation of customized interface with specific predefined states of a user interface control. Therefore, the teaching of Smith does read on the rendering graphical user interface according to user interfaces requirements specification as clearly presented in the rejection.

Other arguments are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu whose telephone number is (703-605-1232). The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri from 7:00AM to 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached on (703- 308-3116).

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

(703)-746-7238 (After Final Communication)

or

(703)-746-7239 (Official Communications)

(703)-746-7240 (For Status Inquiries, draft communication)

and / or:

(703)-746-5639 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions)

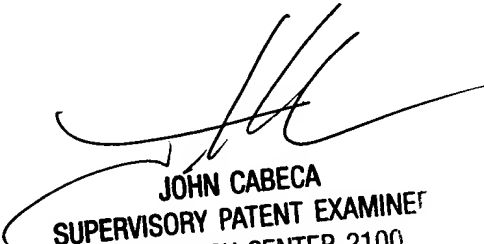
Application/Control Number: 09/240,844
Art Unit: 2173

Page 7

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703-305-3900).

Kieu D. Vu

August 6, 2002.



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100